



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 5 February 2009

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)  
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- According to the Associated Press, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration sent investigators to the We Energies power plant in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, where coal dust apparently ignited in a silo Tuesday morning, injuring six contractors. (See item [1](#))
- IDG News Service reports that employees at federal security agencies are being notified that their personal information may have been compromised after hackers planted a virus on computer networks of government contractor SRA International. (See item [7](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump**

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#), [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

**Sustenance and Health:** [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

**Federal and State:** [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

## **Energy Sector**

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels:** Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *February 4, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **OSHA agents investigate blast at Wisconsin power plant.** Federal safety officials are combing the Milwaukee-area power plant where an explosion injured six people, including two with burns over half their bodies. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has sent investigators to We Energies' Oak Creek plant about 20 miles south of Milwaukee, where coal dust apparently ignited in a silo Tuesday morning, injuring six contractors. An OSHA spokesman says the investigators will try to determine what caused the explosion. He says any safety code violations could result in fines. Two of the injured were treated and released from a hospital Tuesday. The other four remain hospitalized, with one in critical condition Tuesday night. A We Energies spokesman said there was

an explosion in the dust collection mechanism within the coal handling facility. We Energies contract workers were in the process of setting up scaffolding inside the silo when the apparent explosion occurred, according to the We Energies spokesman. The fire suppression equipment in the silo was not working, and workers were preparing the scaffolding so it could get fixed. He said it is unclear if the explosion would have been prevented if the equipment had been working properly.

Source: <http://www.wsaw.com/home/headlines/39024162.html>

See also: <http://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/stories/2009/02/02/daily37.html>

2. *February 4, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **South Missouri finds it is slow going to recover from power outages.** For those who wonder why it is taking so long to restore power to southern Missouri, the man who assembles repair crews has three words. “There’s nothing left,” said a state coordinator for mutual aid. As the fallout of a devastating ice storm enters its second week, about 26,100 homes and businesses in the region still are without power. The coordinator, who also trains electrical linemen for the Missouri Public Utilities Alliance, said last week’s storm “totally destroyed” the infrastructure that delivers electricity. “The whole infrastructure has to be brought up,” he said. “It’s all broken, laying on the ground. That ice totally destroyed it. I’ve got 40 crews on the ground trying to put it back together.” Worse yet, he learned on February 3 that crews from an out-of-state power association may not arrive to rebuild southern Missouri’s crumpled transmission lines for another week — and that it could take 45 days to rebuild them. And there is another problem: “There aren’t enough electricians to go around,” he said. “We’re waiting on electricians.”

Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/115/story/1016571.html>

3. *February 2, Anchorage Daily News* – (Alaska) **Oil terminal sits in harm’s way.** When Mount Redoubt in Alaska erupted 20 years ago with little warning, the Drift River Oil Terminal was holding 900,000 barrels of crude. Eventually all that crude was ordered shipped out in tankers as a precaution, and ten Cook Inlet oil platforms had to close down briefly. Now, Redoubt is restless again. Strong seismic tremors came and went January 30, with the Alaska Volcano Observatory saying an eruption could come at any time. State and federal oil spill officials say the storage at Drift River is being reduced this week. But they will not say by how much. “All I know is that the operators are keeping their levels down,” said a spokesperson for the state Department of Environmental Conservation. She said the terminal has seven 270,000-barrel tanks. She also said a new protective dike built around the tanks at Drift River is designed to steer waters away from the facility if another monstrous flood occurs. A tanker is now at Drift River taking on oil, a U.S. Coast Guard spokeswoman in Anchorage said January 30. The tanker will carry the product to Nikiski, where Tesoro has a refinery.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/news/alaska/story/673773.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Chemical Industry Sector**

Nothing to report

## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

4. *February 4, Reuters* – (Nebraska) **NPPD Neb. Cooper reactor up to 90 pct power.**

Nebraska Public Power District's 760-megawatt Cooper nuclear power station in Nebraska ramped up to 90 percent early on February 3, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The company reduced the unit to about 60 percent of capacity for suppression testing by February 2. The test was to find a possible small radioactive leak in a fuel bundle. Typically during the test, operators insert and remove control rods into the fuel bundles until they find the suspected leak. Any radioactivity remains within the plant so it does not pose a threat to the public or workers.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN0426094220090204>

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

5. *February 4, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Incident report prompts safety curfew at Y-12.** A safety "curfew" was enforced for about an hour January 2 at the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant after a worker reported a possible leak in a line carrying hydrogen fluoride. A spokeswoman for Y-12 contractor B&W said the curfew went into effect shortly after 4 p.m., requiring that all employees stay in place or, if outdoors, go to the nearest building until the order was lifted. She said the event began after an employee working on the roof of 9212, the plant's main production facility, reported discoloration of a line carrying hydrogen fluoride. Discoloration can be a sign of a leak, she said. Workers in protective suits went to the roof and examined the chemical line, determining there was no leak. Despite the disruption, the worker did the prudent thing in reporting the potential problem, she said. The safety curfew was lifted around 5 p.m., allowing workers to return to their normal activities or leave the plant. Because of the time of day and the inclement weather, the work population at Y-12 was already reduced when the curfew went into effect.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2009/feb/04/incident-report-prompts-safety-curfew-at-y-12/>

6. *February 4, eFluxMedia* – (Florida) **NASA delays space station mission over valve issues.** Space launches rarely go according to plan, so the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) decision to postpone the launch of Discovery for no earlier than February 19 should come as no surprise. The space agency revealed that they needed more time to assess an issue associated with a flow control valve in the shuttle's main engines. The shuttle Discovery is preparing for a 14-day mission, during which it will deliver the final set of solar array wings for the International Space Station to complete the station's truss. The mission was initially scheduled to launch on February 12, however, NASA decided to take more time to inspect the valves to assess what would happen if a November situation, in which the shuttle Endeavour was found

to have suffered damage after the mission was over, would repeat itself. All three valves that channel gaseous hydrogen from the engines to the external fuel tank have been removed, inspected, and reinstalled back. NASA announced that on February 10, a meeting to assess the analysis will take place. In addition to that, two days later, the flight readiness review team will establish the exact date for the launch.

Source:

[http://www.efluxmedia.com/news\\_NASA\\_Delays\\_Space\\_Station\\_Mission\\_Over\\_Valve\\_Issues\\_34369.html](http://www.efluxmedia.com/news_NASA_Delays_Space_Station_Mission_Over_Valve_Issues_34369.html)

7. *February 3, IDG News Service* – (National) **Federal workers notified after SRA virus breach.** Employees at federal security agencies are being notified that their personal information may have been compromised after hackers planted a virus on computer networks of government contractor SRA International. SRA began notifying employees and all of its customers after discovering the breach recently, a company spokeswoman said on February 3. The malicious software may have allowed hackers to get access to data maintained by SRA, including “employee names, addresses, Social Security numbers, dates of birth, and health care provider information,” the company said in a notification posted at the Maryland attorney general’s Web site. SRA is a 6,600-employee technology consulting company that sells cybersecurity and privacy services to the Federal Government. The company would not say which federal agencies were affected by the breach, but in U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission filings it lists intelligence agencies and those such as the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. National Guard among its clients.  
Source: <http://www.itworld.com/security/61947/federal-workers-notified-after-sra-virus-breach>
8. *February 3, Aviation Week* – (National) **F135 engine cleared for F-35B STOVL testing.** Pratt & Whitney’s F135 engine has been cleared for powered-lift flight-testing in the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter (JSF). Testing is expected to begin on the hover pit at Fort Worth, Texas, early this month, leading to a first vertical landing at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland in June or July. Previous failures were traced to high-cycle fatigue cracking due to vibration caused when the blades struck the wakes from third-stage stator vanes upstream. The fix was to switch to asymmetric vane spacing, to disrupt the excitation causing the vibratory stress, and to redesign the blades to remove the stress concentration. The engine manufacturer plans an additional ground testing in May/June with strain gauges on the new blades to confirm the redesign has eliminated the stress concentration. F135 production is scheduled to begin in July with the first four engines for the conventional takeoff and landing (CTOL) F-35A. This will be followed by a second production batch of eight CTOL and eight STOVL engines.  
Source: [http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story\\_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/F135-020309.xml](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/F135-020309.xml)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

9. *February 4, Finextra.com* – (International) **RBS WorldPay: ATM heist nets \$9 million in 30 minutes.** RBS WorldPay, the U.S. payments processing arm of Royal Bank of Scotland Group, allegedly lost \$9 million in a 30-minute period during a global ATM heist that involved 100 cloned cards in 49 cities worldwide. RBS first reported a breach of its computer systems and the fraudulent use of 100 cards in a press release that was issued on December 23, 2008. The bank confirmed that its computer system had been improperly accessed in November 2008 by an unauthorized party and that the personal information of 1.5 million pre-paid cardholders had been compromised. But the true extent of the fraud has been revealed in a report on New York Fox 5. Law enforcement officials from the FBI told the channel that a network of cashiers was used to withdraw money from 130 different ATM machines in 49 cities worldwide shortly after midnight on November 8, 2008. Although only 100 cloned cards were used, the hackers behind the swindle managed to withdraw up to \$9 million by lifting the daily withdrawal limits on each card, so that they could be used over and over again. So far, the FBI has no suspects and has made no arrests in this scam. An attorney in Atlanta has filed a class-action lawsuit against RBS WorldPay for allegedly failing to protect personal information.

Source: <http://www.finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=19602>

10. *February 3, WHNT 19 Huntsville* – (Alabama) **Text message scam.** The Better Business Bureau of North Alabama is alerting local residents to a phishing scam using text messaging to attempt to steal consumer's identity by falsely claiming that their account has been suspended. The BBB has received dozens of calls from local consumers who received a text message stating "This is an automated message from Cullman Savings Bank. Your ATM card has been suspended. To reactivate call urgent at 1-888-873-9356." The BBB has verified with Cullman Savings Bank that they did not send the message. Since then, the BBB has learned that similar messages were sent using the names of other banks or credit unions. The BBB contacted the number provided in the text message and reached a recorded message asking the caller to key in their 16 digit debit card number. The BBB has learned that some recipients who were customers of the bank or credit union named in the bogus text message did provide their account number and later found that money was withdrawn from their bank account. The BBB was also informed that some recipients who did not have an account with the named financial institution responded to the text message and provided the name of where they bank. The BBB urges consumers to protect their financial information, including the name of their bank or credit union. Scam artists will likely use this information to attempt to steal an individual's identity in the near future.

Source: <http://www.whnt.com/Global/story.asp?S=9782287>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Transportation Sector**

11. *February 4, Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Charter company executives are indicted in '05 crash at Teterboro airport.** Federal criminal charges were brought today against the air charter service that four years ago operated an overloaded corporate jet that crashed on takeoff at Teterboro Airport. Six executives who ran Platinum Jet

Management LLC of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, were charged in a scheme to run a charter operation that took to the air on fraudulent documents. The acting U.S. Attorney said the company — which held itself out as a luxury, high-end charter service — falsified flight records and routinely overloaded planes with fuel at airports where it was cheaper to top off the tanks. The company was charged with misrepresenting itself to customers as a certified charter operation. Both pilots and two commuters on the ground were severely injured when the Challenger CL-600 corporate jet with eight passengers on board attempted to take off on the morning of February 2, 2005 bound for Midway Airport in Chicago. The jet, later found to be nose-heavy, never lifted off the runway despite desperate efforts by the captain and first officer to pull back on the control yoke to get it airborne.

Source:

[http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2009/02/charter\\_company\\_executives\\_are.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2009/02/charter_company_executives_are.html)

12. *February 3, Cambridge Chronicle* – (Massachusetts) **State officials detail BU Bridge, Craigie Dam Bridge construction.** As the start date for construction on some of Cambridge's bridges nears, new plans, which are supposed to be more bike and pedestrian-friendly, were brought to the public. The BU Bridge and the Craigie Dam Bridge and Drawbridge will be getting some serious renovations as part of the DCR's accelerated bridge projects program. The \$27 million BU Bridge project is part of the state's eight-year, \$3 billion bridge repair program. Being that the bridge was built in the 1920s, it is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. "It is in bad shape," an official said of the bridge. "It's essentially at the end of its life span." Along with structural repairs to the bridge, a civil engineers laid out plans to make the bridge and surrounding area easier to navigate. Across the city, two more bridges and the areas around them will be getting improvements. Improvements to the Craigie Dam Bridge and Drawbridge, which are near the Museum of Science, will cost about \$53 million and take part in many more phases than the BU Bridge Project.

Source: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/cambridge/news/x309573641/State-officials-detail-BU-Bridge-Craigie-Dam-Bridge-construction>

13. *February 3, WJLA 7 Washington, D.C.* – (Colorado) **Jet lands safely in Denver after bird hits engine.** United Airlines says a jetliner has returned safely to the Denver airport after a bird struck one of its engines shortly after takeoff. An airline spokeswoman said the engine that was struck continued to operate and the second engine wasn't affected. None of the 151 passengers and crew were injured. The Boeing 757 had just taken off for San Francisco on February 2 when the bird strike happened.

Source: <http://www.wjla.com/news/stories/0209/591480.html?ref=rs>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

14. *February 3, Reuters* – (National) **Man arrested over hoax letters to U.S. banks.** A New Mexico man has been arrested for sending more than 60 threatening letters, all but one of them laced with white powder, to banks and federal offices last October, U.S. authorities said on Tuesday. The 47-year old suspect was arrested on Monday at the



airport in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the U.S. Justice Department said in a statement. The suspect is accused of sending an email on September 26 saying he had lost \$63,525 on his stock in Washington Mutual Bank which was seized by U.S. banking regulators and sold to JP Morgan Chase and Co. The 65 letters were mailed through the U.S. Postal Service and were postmarked from Amarillo, Texas, on October 18, 2008. Sixty-four of the 65 letters contained an unidentified white powder. They also said that the person breathing the powder would die within 10 days. Tests found no traces of dangerous materials. Investigators discovered that a computer in a library at the University of New Mexico's Albuquerque campus was used to find addresses that received the threatening letters.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSTRE51251D20090203>

15. *February 3, WCMH 4 Columbus* – (Ohio) **Bomb squad called to post office for suspicious package.** The Columbus bomb squad was called to a Central Ohio post office after a suspicious package was found at the facility. According to officials, a black package was found in front of the waiting area of the post office on Innis Road, NBC 4 reported. The FBI responded to the scene and the area was closed off. Mail trucks were moved across the street and no traffic was permitted in or out of the facility. Investigation revealed that the package was a piece of luggage stuffed full of empty plastic bags. No threat was found and after nearly two hours the post office was reopened.

Source:

[http://www.nbc4i.com/cmh/news/local/article/bomb\\_squad\\_called\\_to\\_post\\_office\\_for\\_suspicious\\_package/12473/](http://www.nbc4i.com/cmh/news/local/article/bomb_squad_called_to_post_office_for_suspicious_package/12473/)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

16. *February 4, USAgNet* – (International) **Legislation to prevent transmission of FMD.**

Two U.S. Senators introduced a bill last week that would prevent the importation of livestock from Argentina until USDA can certify that Argentina is free of Foot and Mouth Disease. The Foot and Mouth Disease Prevention Act of 2009 is similar to legislation the lawmakers introduced last year. Although the region itself is believed to be free of the disease, FMD is found in the surrounding regions and countries. The senators said they have introduced the legislation to keep the pressure on USDA and to make sure the new administration understands the importance of this issue. Foot and Mouth Disease affects ruminants and swine, and is considered to be the most economically devastating of all livestock diseases. According to APHIS, the economic impacts of the disease in the United States could cost the economy billions of dollars.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=272&yr=2009>

17. *February 3, Associated Press* – (National) **Kellogg's Keebler Cookies, Special K Bars recalled.** Kellogg Co. said on January 2 it is recalling some Keebler Cookies and Special K Meal Bars and expand some previous product recalls amid the growing scope of a national salmonella outbreak linked to a Georgia peanut butter plant. The Keebler cookies included in the voluntary recall include Soft Batch Homestyle Chocolate Chunk

Cookies and Oatmeal Raisin Cookies in 2.5-ounce packages, with a “Best If Used Before” date before June 30. The Special K Protein Meal Bar recall includes only the Honey Almond flavor in 6-count and 8-count packages with a “Best If Used Before” date before Feb 1, 2010. The cookies and bars do not contain any peanut ingredients from Peanut Corp. — the company at the center of the investigation. But they were produced at another company’s facility on the same line as products that were made for other companies using potentially contaminated Peanut Corp. ingredients.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gvyJg2uw5YWxFQHn91qjXZKdPgZQD963NJV80>

18. *February 2, Food Production Daily* – (National) **FDA provides recall information via Twitter.** The FDA has started using the social networking site Twitter to communicate its recall updates, market withdrawals and safety alerts. As the number of product recalls connected to the Peanut Corporation of America’s plant in Georgia rapidly expands, the FDA has moved to Twitter as a way to quickly communicate news of urgent recalls. Twitter allows 140-character updates, or ‘tweets,’ linked to a username. Rather than sifting through the more than 400 products now listed on its Web site, Twitter alerts allow concerned consumers to be informed via the Internet or their mobile phone as recalls occur.

Source: <http://www.foodproductiondaily.com/Quality-Safety/FDA-provides-recall-information-via-Twitter>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Water Sector**

19. *February 3, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Southern Mo. targeted for uranium drilling.** The Mississippi River Valley could be one of the “biggest deposits of undiscovered uranium in the U.S.,” said a geologist, who is part of a recent push for uranium spurred by rising prices and some renewed global interest in nuclear power. Some raise concerns about mining in the valley and below its massive aquifer, a major source of water for irrigation and drinking. The geologist has made initial moves toward testing in southeast Kansas and hopes to acquire forest lands along the eastern side of the Mississippi River for testing. In Mississippi County, Missouri, levels of uranium were below the federal standard of 30 parts per billion for drinking water when tested 30 years ago. But the geologist believes higher levels could be deeper underground. A professor of earth and planetary sciences at Washington University-St. Louis said uranium mining could pose risks to the area’s aquifers. About 15 percent of Missouri State’s groundwater is found in this southeastern corner. “We know that aquifer is huge, it’s utilized, and it’s incredibly important,” he said. “And to risk its integrity would be very serious.” The geologist said if uranium is found and a company becomes involved, it would use in situ mining, which he said would not disturb land or water. But a 2007 report by the U.S. Geological Survey said that while in situ mining operations were considered “more environmentally benign” than traditional mining, “they still tend to contaminate the groundwater.”

Source:



<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jcJ8RIihQiYMMYScLZvl4YPXNsngD963VVMG0>

20. *February 3, Water Technology Online* – (Michigan) **Wastewater plant may treat landfill leachate.** An old landfill in Bay County’s Bangor Township is leaking contaminants into a ditch, threatening drinking water sources, according to a February 3 article from the Bay City Times. The leachate used to be pumped to and treated by the Bay County Wastewater Treatment Plant. That process was stopped more than 10 years ago after a spike in levels of vinyl chloride, the article said. The township supervisor is in talks with county officials about resuming pumping to the plant. If that can not be done, the leachate may have to be trucked off site. In the meantime, township officials will hire a consultant to determine the extent of the contamination and prepare a report for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. He said the cost to fix the problem could run anywhere from \$2,000 to \$40,000.  
Source: [http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N\\_ID=71348](http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=71348)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

21. *February 4, Agence France-Presse* – (National) **World ‘modestly prepared’ to tackle bird flu.** Some 220 million doses of Tamiflu, the vaccine against bird flu, are in the hands of governments worldwide, the Swiss pharmaceutical giant Roche said Wednesday. “There are 220 million treatments in the hand of governments for a first line treatment,” the head of Roche’s pharmaceutical division said at a news conference. He called the quantity of Tamiflu held by governments a relatively “modest level of preparedness” given that the world population stands at over six billion people.  
Source: [http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?set\\_id=1&click\\_id=31&art\\_id=nw20090204145259835C955909](http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?set_id=1&click_id=31&art_id=nw20090204145259835C955909)
22. *February 3, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **\$2.7 million found for clinics in the Valley and northeast L.A. County.** Los Angeles County supervisors voted February 3 to approve \$2.7 million in additional funding for about a dozen private clinics that treat the growing ranks of uninsured patients in the San Fernando Valley and other areas of northeast Los Angeles County. The vote came a week after the board split along district lines on which areas of the county were most in need of additional help — choosing to concentrate \$44.8 million in funding for Public-Private Partnership clinics over the next three years in South Los Angeles and other areas of the county.  
Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2009/02/27-million-foun.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Government Facilities Sector**

23. *February 4, International Herald Tribune* – (International) **Police shooting outside U.S. embassy in Athens.** A Greek police officer shot and seriously wounded a private

security guard outside the U.S. Embassy in central Athens on February 4, authorities said. The Brinks Security employee, hired by the embassy, was shot outside the U.S. ambassador's residence next to the embassy building in central Athens. The 31-year-old Greek national suffered a gunshot wound to the neck, police said. Police and U.S. embassy officials ruled out terrorism, but Greek authorities said the shooting did not appear to have been accidental, as initially believed. A Greek police spokesman said the shooting suspect was a 38-year-old police officer with no prior history of misconduct. He was taken into custody for questioning and has not been charged. "This is not any other kind of attack. A policeman on duty fired two shots at a security guard. One of the shots hit him in the front of the neck," the police spokesman said. "Whether this was an accident is being investigated, but he fired two shots...and his explanations which he has given so far are unconvincing." U.S. embassy officials said they were working with Greek authorities to investigate the shooting.

Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2009/02/04/europe/EU-Greece-Shooting.php>

24. *February 4, USA Today* – (California) **Launch of U.S. weather satellite scrubbed.** The planned launch of a rocket carrying a U.S. weather satellite from California's Vandenberg Air Force Base has been scrubbed because of technical problems. The NOAA-N Prime satellite was scheduled to be launched aboard a Delta 2 rocket early February 4 but the mission was postponed because of a problem with the facility's gaseous nitrogen system, which is used to pressurize the liquid oxygen tank and control systems. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which manages the \$564 million mission, did not immediately say when the launch would take place. Rain forecast from February 5 through February 8 could present problems.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/space/2009-02-04-satellite-scrubbed\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/space/2009-02-04-satellite-scrubbed_N.htm)

25. *February 3, KHON 2 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Chemical explosion at Aiea high school.** A home-made explosive device filled with unknown chemicals detonated at Aiea High School while students were in between classes. Two students and two adult employees suffered minor injuries. A security guard and a health aide who responded to the injured students suffered minor skin burns. The improvised explosive device detonated in a stairwell in the school's science building. Both students suffered skin and eye irritation. Emergency crews described the device as a water bottle filled with a brown liquid. "A chemical in it that we've identified as a type of an acid," said a captain at the Honolulu Fire Department. "It's a chemical reaction process that takes place in a sealed container so it has no predictability as to how explosive it will be or when it will happen." The explosive force spread the unknown chemicals. The school was locked down for more than an hour as police searched the campus. Police say federal agents will be notified.

Source: <http://www.khon2.com/home/ticker/38980394.html>

26. *February 3, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **UNL police say chemical didn't come from campus.** Campus police say a University of Nebraska-Lincoln student who had a lethal chemical in his dormitory room apparently obtained the substance off-campus. The 19-year-old student was taken to the hospital on February 1. Authorities say he was exposed to hydrogen cyanide. Police say the student called 911 about a possible

overdose at Pound Hall. Officials found chemicals in the student's second-floor room. The floor was evacuated. A UNL police official says no one else was injured in the incident, and Pound Hall, which is home to 270 students, is safe.

Source: [http://www.kptm.com/Global/story.asp?S=9778362&nav=menu606\\_2](http://www.kptm.com/Global/story.asp?S=9778362&nav=menu606_2)

27. *February 2, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Knoxville Air Guard to open new base entrance.** Ribbon-cutting ceremonies for a new, \$3.2 million entrance to McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base are scheduled for February 5. The Department of Defense awarded McGhee Tyson ANGB funding to improve the entrance to the Air Guard base as a result of government security standards put in place after the September 11th attacks. Improved security inspection areas and pop-up barriers are among the improvements to the entrance.

Source:

[http://blogs.knoxnews.com/knx/fredbrown/2009/02/knoxville\\_air\\_guard\\_to\\_open\\_ne.ht ml](http://blogs.knoxnews.com/knx/fredbrown/2009/02/knoxville_air_guard_to_open_ne.ht ml)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Emergency Services Sector**

28. *February 3, Associated Press* – (National) **Congress opens secrets to local first responders.** Terrorists could be lurking in some American town, but the local sheriff or fire chief might be left in the dark about the threat because he can't easily access information classified by the Feds in Washington. That scenario could change under legislation passed by the House Tuesday to reduce overclassification of threat information. The legislation would require the Homeland Security Department to produce a declassified version of threat information for state and local first responders who do not have the security clearance to view classified material. The measure would also require portion marking, where certain classified parts of a document might be blacked out, but the rest of the information would remain unclassified. The bill was one of several Homeland Security-related bills the House passed February 3.

Source:

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gXWjD52LjxBpk5wM6Xf\\_ajkd c8GwD964EAQ00](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gXWjD52LjxBpk5wM6Xf_ajkd c8GwD964EAQ00)

29. *February 3, Waynesville Daily Guide* – (Missouri) **Alert system new for state.** Urgent warnings from the State of Missouri Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and the Department of Public Safety can now be delivered with the assistance of GroupCast. The GroupCast system allows state officials to send thousands of recorded messages statewide within a matter of minutes through the Missouri Disaster Responder Notification System. SEMA's public information officer said the new system allows the agency to notify about 15,000 emergency responders at a time. With the system, messages are sent out that tell responders when a conference call is taking place, if an Emergency Operations Center is open and provides the number to call if an area needs assistance. By doing this, those handling an emergency situation are able to get their information out and let agencies know what services they need assistance with. Under the old system, individuals would have to call responders to notify them of a conference

call or other pertinent information. The GroupCast notification system brings automation into the equation, freeing up people and getting the needed messages out quicker and more efficiently.

Source: <http://www.waynesvilledailyguide.com/news/x545168396/Alert-system-new-for-state>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Information Technology**

30. *February 4, CNET News* – (International) **IBM software scans for security holes in Flash, Ajax.** IBM announced new software on February 4 that scans Flash and Ajax-based apps for security problems. IBM Rational AppScan can automatically scan online applications every 15 minutes to check for security defects that could lead to compromised computers and Internet attacks. Administrators can receive security alerts on their mobile devices as they occur. The standard version of the product costs \$17,550 for a one-year license. The software also supports service oriented architecture applications, IBM said. More than half of all vulnerabilities disclosed last year were Web applications, according to IBM's X-Force Trend Report. And Flash seems to get its share of vulnerabilities. The number of Flash vulnerabilities detected in Web applications over the last two years has increased by 300 percent compared with 2005 and 2006, according to the IBM X-Force report. Adobe Flash Player is on more than 98 percent of Internet connected computers and is used to view 80 percent of the video on the Web, IBM said.

Source: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009\\_3-10156256-83.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=News-Security](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10156256-83.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=News-Security)

31. *February 3, CNET News* – (International) **Firefox 3.0.6 targets security issues.** Mozilla on February 3 released an update to Firefox that its developers said addresses several security and stability issues in the Web browser. Version 3.0.6 fixes six bugs, the worst of which is a JavaScript issue affecting the browser's layout engine that developers labeled as critical. The vulnerability, which also affects Mozilla's Thunderbird e-mail client and SeaMonkey Internet Suite, could allow an attacker to run unauthorized code on exploited machines, Mozilla said. The update improves how scripted commands, such as those included with Adblock Plus, work with plug-ins. It also addresses display issues, Mozilla said. The update comes as Firefox continues to chip away at Internet Explorer's market dominance. Internet Explorer now has 67.55 percent of global browser market share, a drop of more than 7 percentage points in a year, according to figures from Web metrics company Net Applications released on February 2. Mozilla's Firefox browser, meanwhile, has gained market share in the same time frame, climbing more than 3 percentage points to 21.53 percent.

Source: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009\\_3-10156374-83.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=News-Security](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10156374-83.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=News-Security)

32. *February 3, DarkReading* – (International) **Report: Yanking admin rights alleviates threats in 92% of critical Microsoft vulnerabilities.** Revoking administrative rights from machines can mitigate attacks against most critical Microsoft vulnerabilities and in

more than half of all vulnerabilities in Microsoft software, a new report released on February 3 says. In 92 percent of the Microsoft vulnerabilities labeled “critical” in 2008 Microsoft security vulnerability bulletins, the software giant said users with administrative rights were more likely to be affected by these vulnerabilities than were those with lesser privileges, BeyondTrust states in its report. And reducing user rights was a mitigation recommendation by Microsoft in nearly 70 percent of all of its software vulnerabilities reported last year, according to BeyondTrust. The report also found that removing admin rights helps protect organizations from the full wrath of exploits in 94 percent of all Microsoft Office vulnerabilities, 89 percent of Internet Explorer vulnerabilities, and 53 percent of Windows vulnerabilities reported last year. “We knew the benefit of eliminating admin rights, but we were all shocked that 92 percent of the critical vulnerabilities could be mitigated by eliminating [these] rights,” said the CEO for BeyondTrust, which sells least-privilege user management software for Windows environments. This step can serve as a preventative or stopgap measure until patches are deployed, or while an organization is evaluating the impact of patching on its applications, for instance. Plus it buys the system administrator some time to evaluate the patch. “Most companies do not want to issue patches instantaneously [until] they test their compatibility with the systems they have,” the CEO said.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/vulnerabilities/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=213000764>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## Communications Sector

33. *February 3, Wireless and Mobile News* – (National) **BlackBerry data outage yesterday, today and tomorrow?** According to Boy Genius Report, there was a major data outage for BlackBerry Smartphones in the United States on February 3. There appeared to be problems in Houston and Baltimore/Washington D.C. areas. AT&T told Boy Genius that their BlackBerry Internet Server (BIS) was down. It is a RIM issue and RIM engineers are working on it. Boy Genius Report reports that they “know several areas of the Northeast are still without service, including many in the New York / New Jersey region, but AT&T claims only enterprise customers are still affected at this point.” A commenter posted “It seems people are getting ‘data connection refused’” or edge instead of EDGE. AT&T blames RIM, and RIM says it is AT&T. Another commenter noted, “The issue was with BIS (not BES) and I have heard from both RIM and the carrier that the problem was fixed on February 2, which seems consistent with what I heard from other people. And mine is working fine. If you are having a problem

on February 3, you should call your carrier or your ISP because it is probably a local issue.”

Source:

[http://www.wirelessandmobilenews.com/2009/02/blackberry\\_data\\_outage\\_yesterday\\_to\\_day\\_and\\_tommorrow.html](http://www.wirelessandmobilenews.com/2009/02/blackberry_data_outage_yesterday_to_day_and_tommorrow.html)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

34. *February 4, WAFB 9 Baton Rouge* – (Louisiana) **Guests say meth lab exploded at hotel.** There are reports of a possible meth lab explosion at a popular Baton Rouge hotel. It happened at the Crestwood Suites Hotel on Sherwood Forest early February 4. Nearly a dozen fire trucks flooded the scene to stay on top of a suspicious fire that started in a bathroom on the hotel’s third floor. Firefighters were able to keep the fire there and everyone escaped safely. No injuries were reported. Some of the guests at the hotel say the fire was caused by a meth lab explosion, but investigators have not confirmed that. Police are also investigating what happened. They have not released many details about that, but several BOLOs (Be On the Lookout) have been issued for a person they would like to speak with about this incident.

Source: <http://www.wafb.com/Global/story.asp?S=9784882&nav=0aWU>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

35. *February 4, Frederick News Post* – (Maryland) **Weekend closures announced for Catoctin Mountain Park.** Parts of Catoctin Mountain Park will be closed this weekend due to increased security measures, according to a release sent out February 4 by the National Park Service. From about noon February 7 until 8 p.m. February 8, Park Central Road between Camp Misty Mount Entrance and Camp Greentop will be closed. The routes to Blue Ridge Summit Overlook and Hog Rock will be closed this weekend. The park service did not state what the increased security measures are for.

Source:

<http://www.fredericknewspost.com/sections/news/displayUpdate.htm?StoryID=86027>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Dams Sector**

36. *February 4, Associated Press* – (Utah) **Invasive mussels found in Utah reservoir.** Tiny invasive mussels capable of causing big problems have been found in another Utah lake. Tests show quagga mussels are in Red Fleet Reservoir, which is about seven miles north of Vernal. State wildlife officials have been on the lookout for non-native zebra and quagga mussels. The mussels were inadvertently introduced into the Great Lakes about 20 years ago. They reproduce and spread rapidly, threatening food sources for fish and clogging machinery and water pipes. The general manager of the Uinta Water



Conservancy District said the mussels could attach themselves to mechanical equipment at the dam and pump stations and hinder operations. The head of the aquatics section of the state Division of Wildlife Resources said the mussels also threaten the state's complex water delivery systems. By one estimate, a full infestation in Utah could cost \$15 million a year in extra maintenance.

Source:

<http://www.tahoedailytribune.com/article/20090204/NEWS/902039954/1003/NONE&parentprofile=1056&title=Invasive%20mussels%20found%20in%20Utah%20reservoir>

37. *February 3, Cumberland Times-News* – (Maryland) **Leaky Lonaconing dam on path to rapid repair.** Using money from an emergency grant, town officials are moving rapidly to repair a leaking dam that holds back 2 million gallons of the community's drinking water. "About three weeks ago we discovered that water was coming out of the ground about 50 feet below the Koontz Dam," said the town administrator. "There is not an immediate danger, but we are watching it very closely. It's possible it could cause the dam to collapse." The Koontz Dam, located at an elevated position on the west side of central Lonaconing, is near Beechwood Street. It is one of three reservoirs that contains the town's drinking water. He said a bent valve is keeping the town from draining the reservoir to take pressure off the dam. "Fixing the valve and draining the reservoir will be a part of the project," he said.

Source: [http://www.times-news.com/local/local\\_story\\_034154339.html](http://www.times-news.com/local/local_story_034154339.html)

38. *February 3, WWL 4 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **Corps plans to bolster weak section of Industrial Canal.** After Hurricane Katrina, the Army Corps of Engineers determined that an 1800 foot section of the western wall on the Industrial Canal levee did not meet the new, tougher engineering standards. But before a permanent solution was found, Hurricane Gustav arrived, and so to better protect the wall, they temporarily placed Hesco baskets in front of it to keep the water from slamming up against the questionable section. The concern was not so much overtopping, as it was keeping the entire levee from moving. Now the Corps is set to begin the permanent fix to keep the levee from sliding. The plan is to dig out huge columns and mix dirt with concrete to build a series of underground columns. When the project is complete, the levee, though stronger, will look no different on the surface. They are going to bore a deep hole and then mix dirt and concrete 35 feet deep, 3 feet under the top of the levee. That is one column. Then they will do another right beside it, three feet down, and another beside it, and another beside it, until they get a 14-foot panel down towards the toe of the levee. The goal, again, is to keep the slope from sliding.

Source:

<http://www.wwltv.com/local/stories/wwl020309cbindustrialcanal.1861d481.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

**DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports** – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

Content and Suggestions:	Send mail to <a href="mailto:NICCRports@dhs.gov">NICCRports@dhs.gov</a> or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421
Subscribe to the Distribution List:	Visit the <a href="#">DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report</a> and follow instructions to <a href="#">Get e-mail updates when this information changes</a> .
Removal from Distribution List:	Send mail to <a href="mailto:NICCRports@dhs.gov">NICCRports@dhs.gov</a> or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421 for more information.

---

## **Contact DHS**

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

## **Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer**

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.